

The LLNL Cluster Tool

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The LLNL Cluster Tool



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Introduction



- The Cluster Tool
 - is a set of linked vacuum chambers
 - can deposit multiple layers of metal and metal oxides
 - Each layer can be deposited without breaking vacuum
 - Shadow masks can give each layer a different pattern
- The Cluster Tool will be operational in April





Benefits of a Cluster Tool



- All components in linked vacuum chambers
 - Reduced contamination
 - Prevent unwanted oxidation
- Automated processing capability
 - Many layers per substrate
 - Many substrates per batch





Our System



- Two load locks
 - Cassette for holding multiple wafers or masks
 - Isolated from system with a gate valve
 - Roughing and hi-vac pumping
 - Can load cassettes without venting rest of system







System (continued)



Wafer handling robot

- Moves wafers and masks between load locks and process chamber (up to two more chambers can be added)
- Isolated from system with gate valves
- Roughing and hi-vac pumping





System (continued)



- Substrate Chamber
 - Electrostatic chuck holds 8-inch wafers
 - Chuck can inject gas around wafer for oxide or nitride coatings
 - RF bias capability
 - Magnetic clamping of shadow masks
 - 12-inch turbo pump
 - 14-inch cryo pump
 - RGA





System (continued)



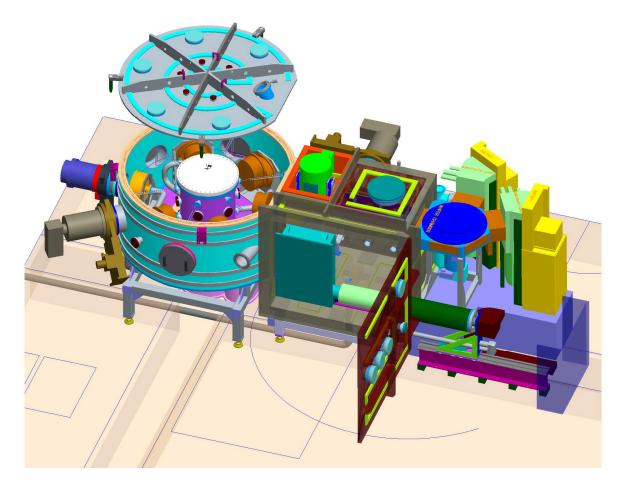
- Magnetron Chamber
 - Rotating platter holds six reactive ion sputtering magnetrons
 - Three fixed magnet magnetrons
 - Three rotating magnet magnetrons
 - All magnetrons have 8-inch targets
 - All magnetrons use pulsed DC sources
 - Can sweep magnetrons back and forth for greater coating uniformity
 - 12-inch turbo pump
 - 14-inch cryo pump





System Model









System Photo









Coating capabilities



- Start with Copper, Niobium, and Zirconium
 - Add Aluminum and Gold in FY08
- Can also deposit oxides and nitrides
- Can adjust the magnetron substrate separation 4 to 18 inches
- Can adjust tilt angle of substrate during the deposition
- Can rotate the substrate during the deposition
- Can adjust the shadow mask substrate separation during the deposition





Shadow Masks



- Repeatable registration to 10 microns
- 1.5 mm thick Kovar, 225 mm diameter
- Gap to substrate adjustable in 14 micron steps

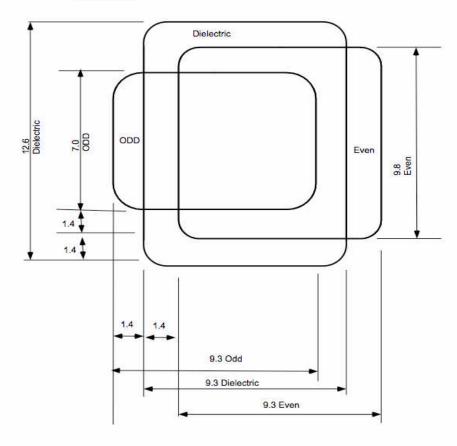




Capacitor example



Mask Overlay Pattern 1.0 mm radius typical 10/16/2006 Robert Chow







Conclusion



- The Cluster Tool is nearing completion
- We will be able to deposit multiple layers, each with different geometries, without breaking vacuum



